1	2	3	4
2.	Kerala	IT project for production of CD/VCD, Deptt. of Tourism	29.00
3.	Kerala	IT Project—Deptt. of Tourism	21.00
4.	Madhya Pradesh	IT project for Deptt. of Tourism	50.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Upgradation of website, production of CD/VCD for Deptt. of Tourism	20.00
6.	Punjab	Preparation of CD ROM for Deptt. of Tourism	13.57
7.	Rajasthan	Translation of website in foreign languages for Deptt of Tourism	24.42
8.	Uttaranchal	Tourism Networking for Deptt. of Tourism	50.00
9.	Delhi	Revamping of existing website for Deptt. of Tourism	48.85
10.	Chhattisgarh	IT projects for Deptt. of Tourism	31.68
11.	Pondicherry	IT Project for Deptt. of Tourism	11.73
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	Preparation of Photo and Information CD for Deptt. of Tourism	14.25
13.	Nagaland	IT projects for networking for Deptt. of Tourism	70.00

Tourism projects for HP

932. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Himachal Pradesh had sent any proposal for developing tourism projects;

(b) if so, the names of the tourism projects and the amount sanctioned for each project; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Ministry of Tourism, Government of India extends financial assistance for the tourism-related projects which are identified in consultation with the State concerned for providing financial assistance under the Integrated Development of Travel Circuits, Product Infrastructure and Destination Development including Rural Tourism Projects and Large Revenue Generating Projects Schemes.

During the last three years of the Tenth Plan following projects have been sanctioned in Himachal Pradesh under the above Schemes:—

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
	2002-03	
1.	Renovation of ancient temple at Dada Siba (Distt. Kangra)	7.81
2.	Integrated Development of Chandigarh-Kullu-Manali-Lahau/Spiti-Leh Tourism Circuit	723.06
	2003-04	
1.	Rural Tourism at Paragpur	50.00
2.	Extension of Tourist Adventure Lodge at Mountaineering Institute, Manali	67.32
3.	Development of Naggar Village (Distt. Kullu) under UNDP Endogenous Rural Tourism Project	50.00
	2004-05	
1.	Restoration & Revitalization of Heritage Hotel Castle Nagar (Distt. Kullu) and Palace Hotel Chail (Distt. Chail)	500.00
2.	Integrated Development of Tourist Circuit, Shimla	800.00
3.	Development of Kangra Circuit	800.00
4.	Development of Sirmour as Tourist Destination	500.00

1	2	3
5.	Upgradation of Website, production of CD-ROMs and VCDs	20.00
6.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at village Naggar in Kullu Distt.	20.00
7.	Tourist Reception Centre near Chauri Bihal, Manali	24.00

Promotion of domestic tourist circuits

933. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the year 2004 nearly 3.21 million foreign tourists visited India generating Rs. 21,828 crores in foreign exchange, while 5.5 million Indian tourists went abroad leading to an outflow of foreign exchange of Rs. 72,600 crores, thereby neutralising the foreign exchange earnings from tourism, as the Indian tourist, reportedly, finds visiting neighbouring countries locales of tourists interests cheaper than the Indian resorts; and

(b) if so, the details of fresh initiatives being taken to make the domestic tourism also cheaper and attractive to persuade the Indian tourists to explore the domestic circuit as well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) An estimated 3.37 million foreign tourists arrived in India during 2004, and foreign exchange earnings were Rs. 21,828 crore. During the year, 6.2 million Indians went abroad and Travel payments, as compiled by the Reserve Bank of India, were Rs. 22,988 crore. There are various reasons for more Indians going abroad, like fascination for foreign locations; prestige involved in visiting foreign countries; visiting friends and relatives settled in countries like UK, USA, Singapore, Bahrain, Oman, UAE, etc.; cheap/concessional air fares to some foreign locations like South-East, compared to Indian destinations; cheap hotel tariff; etc.

(b) A number of steps have been taken by the Government to boost domestic tourism like, improving the tourist infrastructure at important